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EUROPEAN PROJECT

Creativity – the most important tool to increase students motivation in multicultural environments!

Topic/ theme: Intercultural education, Pedagogy and didactics **Dates:**

- the whole project takes place from the 1st of July 2014 30 April 2015/2016
- preparatory activities: 1-16 of July 2014
- course:

Sessions:

25th of August – 2nd of September 2014 / 22nd of June – 30th of June 2015 Country: Romania, Bran

27th of September – 5th of October 2014/1st of September – 9th of September 2015 Country: Isla, Malta

- follow up, dissemination activities made by the organizations and the participants: 24 of July 2014 - 30 of April 2015

Venue: Bran(Romania), Isla(Malta)

Sending partners: educational organizations involved in formal, non-formal and informal learning: schools, adult training centers, resource centers, other relevant organization active in the adult education field established in Erasmus+ program countries.

Participants: 20-25 adults involved in education

Receiving partner: Dominou Association, based in Craiova, Romania, with an experience of 10 years in the field of European projects and training, through dozens of local, national and international projects, the majority of them within the framework of Life Long Learning Programme (Youth in Action, Grundtvig, Leonardo). The Association has working partnerships with youth, adult and child education institutions from 7 counties of Romania and 17 countries. **Trainers:** multinational team of trainers – Romanian and Maltese, SALTO affiliated, with specialization courses in more than 15 European countries.

Languages used: English, Romanian, Portuguese

The training materials will be provided in English and Romanian. On request, Spanish and French.

Profile of the participants: the applicant is the organization. After receiving the financial grant from the Erasmus+ program, the organization selects the relevant staff in response to its need of bringing in new, creativity stimulating educational methods and increase its European dimension. Also, the institution is interested in the Erasmus+ news for developing projects within this framework. The organization will supervise the dissemination activities to take place at local, regional, national and international level organized by the participants.

The participants are teachers or adult trainers active in the sending organization interested in growing a creative and intercultural environment in their institutions, with or without previous

experience, willing to develop themselves professionally not only through the course, but by involving themselves in preparatory and follow up activities. They must be interested in other cultures and in developing the institution's European dimension.

Objectives:

- Exchanging experiences and intercultural practices in cooperative and collaborative learning process as long as in creativity and innovation;
- Better understanding of their own competence as teacher and learning to develop creative strategies for dealing multicultural challenges in their own schools and classrooms;
- Developing tools and techniques that can be used in order to increase students motivation and combat drop-out phenomenon;
- Deepening understanding of the multicultural school content through various creative tools for innovative problem solving
- · Identify common criteria and approaches for follow-up projects and initiatives developed on this training course.

Methodology

The course is designed for teachers of all subjects, offering them effective tools to improve creativity skills of their students as well as their own. School teachers will acquire an insight in how a professional teacher will notify and deal with intercultural and multicultural issues in day-to-day practice at schools and what it takes to become a successful cross-cultural reflective teacher to tackle "creativity" problems in order to create an atmosphere in which students like to learn, teachers like to teach and all like to work together. It follows two-way communication process including discussions, interactive games, story-boarding, role-plays, three-step interview working in groups and pairs, presentations, case studies, thinking techniques and individual activities.

Since the specific quality of this training course is the focus on tools and concrete use of learning products, participants will be supported and guided on the development, implementation and evaluation of their own creative tools for intercultural educational environment.

We will use the venue as an intercultural and good practices educational resource during three days of the training activity.

The project will be supported through preparatory and follow up activities.

Preparatory activities: the participants will prepare a presentation of their organization's best practices in using technology in the classroom, their education system and their culture. They will communicate with the other international participants and with the receiving organization through the means of a Facebook group, used as a learning social platform. They will be given preparatory materials and a needs and profiling questionnaire, for personalizing the learning experience. The participants will undergo linguistic and cultural preparation. The sending organizations and the receiving organization will collaborate according to the previously signed learning agreement.

Modules of the training course:

Days	Module	Details of activities and methodology
Day 1,2	Team building and group dynamics	Introduction: aims, content and envisaged outcomes and expectations of participants,
		Intercultural games. Working in an international project – how to communicate and connect
		Team building: working with colleagues and stakeholders – practical exercises followed by a debate
		Stereotypes and prejudices in the classroom.
		Games, methods and tools for improving communication.
		Cultural trip – project tour exploring exterior manifestations of culture
Day 3	Creativity	Creativity and the European Framework Current approaches used in studying creativity: An exploratory investigation Creative intercultural approach and school practice: case scenario How creative are we? Thinking outside the box – Creative teaching methods Creative tools for students Study visit: Creativity, an interactive factor of interculturality
Day 4,5,6	Multiculturality and interculturality	Why we need an intercultural learning? The meaning and importance of intercultural competence Who should be intercultural competent? Intercultural competences needed by adult educators: teachers, policy-makers and learners Strategies and approaches to developing intercultural competence Growing multiculturalism and diversity in schools in Europe. Challenges for the international classroom The characteristics of intercultural organizations Intercultural policies and strategies How can organizations become intercultural competent: working plan Experiences with multiculturalism: Exchanging cases/experiences of participants: identify of different cases for study Assessing intercultural competence

Day 7	Motivation	Lecture at the university: Creativity and motivation The importance of internal and external motivation both for teachers and students The value of failure Motivation game: case study on different target groups.
Day 8	Transversal links	Intercultural issues- creative solutions The link between creativity, intercultural learning and development education Opportunities for European Collaboration – Partnerships within the Erasmus+ Study visit to local organizations implementing European projects.
Day 9	Evaluation	Dissemination and valorization activities planning. Using European certification tools: Europass Mobility certificate, upgrading the Europass Language Passport and Europass Skills Passport Project evaluation. Certification ceremony.

Follow-up activities: According to the signed agreement. They will include international cooperation between the sending organizations, collaboration on the E-twinning platform, activities and tools development and sharing, publishing project products on relevant platforms (European Shared Treasure, SALTO), dissemination and valorization activities.

Certification: Certificate of attendance, Europass Mobility Document





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